

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /149 W

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R 201318Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0093

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USMISSION USUN NY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA, AO

SUBJ: SOME OVAMBO POLITICAL ACTIVISTS FLEE TO ANGOLA

1. HIGHLY RELIABLE SOURCE WHO SPOKE BY TELEPHONE JUNE 19 WITH CONTACTS IN OWAMBO TOLD POL COUNSELOR IN WINDHOEK ON SAME DAY THAT SOME FORTY OVAMBOS ARE KNOWN TO HAVE LEFT OWAMBO AND CROSSED BORDER INTO ANGOLA. THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAD GOVERNMENT JOBS OR WHOSE ABSENCE WOULD OTHERWISE BE READILY NOTED. PRESUMABLY OTHER OVAMBOS ALSO HAVE GONE. SOME OF THOSE WHO DEPARTED ARE KNOWN TO BE ACTIVE IN SWAPO.

2. COMMISSIONER-GENERAL FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, JANNIE DE WET, HAS STATED PUBLICLY THAT FIFTY OVAMBOS HAVE CROSSED THE BORDER INTO ANGOLA. HE SAID,
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"THEY ARE CROSSING INTO ANGOLA FOR ONE PURPOSE ONLY--TO BE

TRAINED BY SWAPO INSTIGATORS ON THAT SIDE TO USE FORCE AGAINST THEIR PEOPLE IN OWAMBO." DE WET TOLD OUR WINDHOEK SOURCE THAT IT IMPOSSIBLE TO POLICE BORDER FULLY EFFECTIVELY BECAUSE OF LARGE EXPANSE OF OPEN TERRITORY AND BECAUSE MANY KWANYAMA OVAMBOS HAVE FAMILIES ON ANGOLA SIDE AND CONSEQUENTLY A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF UNIMPEDED CROSSING BACK AND FORTH GOES ON ALL THE TIME.

3. IT NOT YET KNOWN WHETHER AUTHORITIES IN OWAMBO HAVE TAKEN OR INTEND TO TAK ANY ACTION AGAINST OTHER SWAPO SUPPORTERS. THERE IS SPECULATION IN WINDHOEK THAT SOME COULD BE ARRESTED FOR AIDING AND ABETTING THOSE WHO HAVE ILLEGALLY DEPARTED THE TERRITORY. THERE ALSO SPECULATION THAT IF SWAPO MEMBERS FROM NAMIBIA HAVE LEFT TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN SWAPO-IN-EXILE'S LIBERATION EFFORTS, SAG COULD USE THIS AS JUSTIFICATION FOR BANNING SWAPO INSIDE NAMIBIA.
HURD

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, OVAMBO
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Draft Date: 20 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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